

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 IO-13 TRSE-00 EB-08 STR-07 /106 W
-----012226 102219Z /61

R 091416Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7555
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, GE, US
SUBJECT: GDR MEDIA COVERAGE OF FISCHER VISIT TO
- WASHINGTON

REF: BERLIN 3846

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF JUNE 8 REPORTS ON FOREIGN MINISTER
FISCHER'S MEETING WITH WASHINGTON JOURNALISTS AND MEMBERS
OF THE SENATE AND HIS TOUR OF THE DRESDEN ART EXHIBIT.
COVERAGE IS AS EXTENSIVE BUT CONSIDERABLY LESS PROMINENT
THAN THE REPORTING OF HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY
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(REFTEL).

2. MOST OF THE REPORT DEALS WITH HIS STATEMENT TO
WASHINGTON JOURNALISTS IN WHICH HE STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE
IN GDR FOREIGN POLICY OF AVOIDING WAR AND THE CENTRALITY
OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. FISCHER IS QUOTED AS DECLARING
THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GDR TO BE COOPERATIVE AND CON-

STRUCTIVE IN FINDING SOLUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, AND IS REPORTED TO HAVE AFFIRMED, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, THE "COOPERATION OF THE GDR WITH LIBERATED NATION STATES". (NOTE: THIS IS AS CLOSE AS ND COMES TO GIVING ITS READERS AN IDEA OF WHAT FISCHER WAS ASKED AND REPLIED ON GDR'S INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA.) HE IS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE STATED THE IMPORTANCE IN GDR POLICY OF THE SSOD, BANNING NEUTRON WEAPONS, A GENERAL HALTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRODUCTION AND A BANNING OF PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. FISCHER IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT IT IS IN THE NATURE OF THINGS THAT STATES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS WOULD HAVE DIFFERENT INTERESTS BUT THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO VITALIZE THOSE BASIC INTERESTS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION. IN THIS RESPECT HE SINGLED OUT TRADE RELATIONS WHERE HE CRITICIZED "TRADE BARRIERS, RESTRICTIONS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE HINDRANCES" WHICH THE GDR EXPECTS TO BE REMOVED.

3. ND REPORTS BRIEFLY THAT FISCHER MET WITH SENATORS CHURCH, CRANSTON AND JAVITTS AND DISCUSSED WITH THEM MEANS OF IMPROVING BILATERAL RELATIONS AND STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. REPORT ALSO NOTES FISCHER'S VISIT TO THE DRESDEN ART EXHIBIT AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

4. COMMENT: LIKE THE REPORT CONTAINED REFTTEL, THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEDIA TREATMENT IS GENERALLY UPBEAT AND POSITIVE IN DEMONSTRATING THE GDR'S DESIRE FOR BETTER BILATERAL TIES. HOWEVER, UNLIKE THE PREVIOUS DAY'S REPORT, IT DOES NOT CONVEY TO GDR READERS ANY PARTICULAR RECIPROCITY ON THE AMERICAN SIDE. END COMMENT. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN03907
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780243-0864
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780678/aaaacpfp.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7fetc58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BERLIN 3846
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2424087
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR MEDIA COVERAGE OF FISCHER VISIT TO - WASHINGTON
TAGS: PGOV, SOPN, GC, US, (FISCHER, OSKAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7fetc58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014